CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of preparing results from predicting the ability of an existing line to support high-speed access comprising the steps of:
- receiving the results of line testing for high speed access from a test system; and
- binning the test results into one of at least three categories, wherein a first of said
- at least three categories indicates the\selected line cannot support high speed access,
- 6 wherein a second of said at least three categories indicates the selected line can support
- 7 high speed access, and wherein a third of said at least three categories indicates the
- 8 selected line cannot currently support high speed access.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of binning the test results further
- 2 comprises a fourth category, wherein said fourth category indicates the characteristics of
- 3 the selected line fall outside the area of coverage of the system.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving the results of line testing
- 2 comprises receiving the results of line testing for ISDN access.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving the results of line testing
- 2 comprises receiving the results of line testing for xDSL access
- The method of claim 4 wherein said step of receiving the results of line testing for
- 2 xDSL access comprises receiving the results of line testing for ADSL access.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of receiving the results of line testing for
- 2 ADSL access comprises receiving the results of line testing for at least one of G.dmt
- 3 access and G.lite access.
- 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of color-coding each of said
- 2 categories, wherein each category has a respective color.

- 1 8. The method of laim 1 wherein said step of binning the test results further
- 2 comprises said third of at least three categories would be able to support high speed
- access upon removal of an impediment on said selected line.
- 1 9. The method of claim & wherein said impediment is selected from the group
- 2 consisting of a load coil and a bridged tap.
- 1 10. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of billing for said selected line
- based on the date rate supported by said selected line.
- 1 11. The method of claim 7 wherein said step of color-coding comprises coding said
- 2 first of said at least three categories red, said second of said at least three categories green
- and said third of said at least three categories yellow.
- 1 12. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of color-coding comprises coding said
- 2 fourth category gray.
- 1 13. The method of claim 1 further comprising the initial step of testing a line.
- 1 14. The method of claim 13 wherein said step of testing a line comprises the steps of:
- 2 driving said line with a signal;
- 3 measuring said line;
- estimating characteristics of said line from the results of said measuring said line;
- 5 and
- 6 predicting a data rate supportable by said line from said line characteristics.
- 1 15. The method of claim 14 wherein said step of estimating characteristics of said line
- 2 include at least one of:
- 3 estimating an insertion loss of said line;
- 4 estimating a phase imbalance of said line;
- 5 estimating a length of said line;

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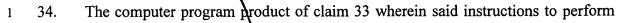
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- estimating a gauge of said line;
 determining the presence of gauge changes of said line;
- 8 determining the presence of a bridged tap on said line;
- 9 determining the presence of a load coil on said line; and
- determining the presence of other path elements on said line.
- 1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said step of determining the presence of other 2 path elements includes at least one of:
- determining the presence of a splitter;
- determining the presence of a filter; and
- determining the presence of a termination.
- 17. The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of predicting the dependability of said line testing.
- 1 18. The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of predicting the coverage of 2 said line testing.
 - 19. A computer program product for preparing results from predicting the ability of an existing line to support high speed access, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable code thereon, including program code comprising:
 - instructions for causing a test unit to receive the results of line testing for high speed access; and
 - instructions for causing said test unit to bin the results into one of at least three categories, wherein a first of said at least three categories indicates the selected line cannot support high speed access, wherein a second of said at least three categories indicates the selected line can support high speed access, and wherein a third of said at least three categories indicates the selected line cannot currently support high speed access.

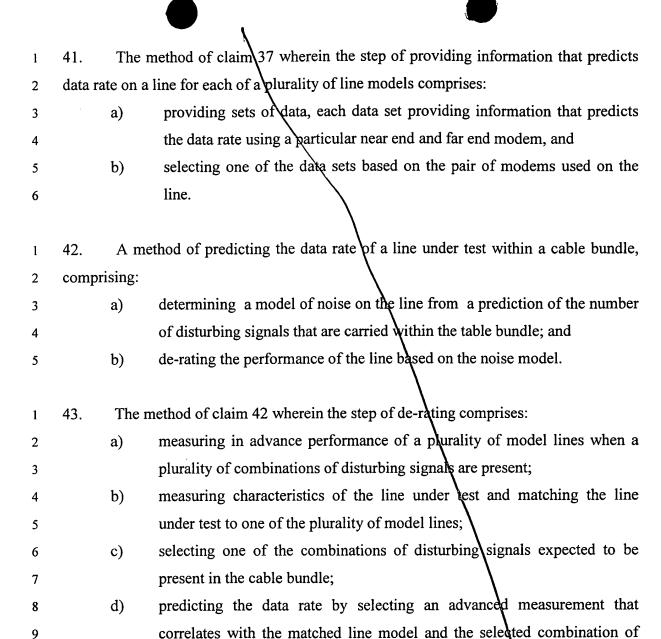
- 1 20. The computer program product of claim 19 further comprising instructions for
- 2 causing said test unit to bin the test results into a fourth category, said fourth category
- indicating the characteristics of the selected line fall outside the area of coverage of the
- 4 system.
- 1 21. The computer program product of claim 19 wherein said high-speed access
- 2 comprises ISDN access.
- 1 22. The computer program product of claim 19 wherein said high-speed access
- 2 comprises xDSL access.
- 1 23. The computer program product of claim\22 wherein said xDSL access comprises
- 2 ASDSL access.
- 1 24. The computer program product of claim 23 wherein said ADSL access comprises
- at least one of G.lite access and G.dmt access.
- 1 25. The computer program product of claim 19 further comprising instructions for
- 2 color-coding each of said categories, wherein each category has a respective color.
- 1 26. The computer program product of claim 19 wherein said third of at least three
- 2 categories could support high speed access upon removal of an impediment on said
- 3 selected line.
- 1 27. The computer program product of claim 26 wherein said impediment is selected
- 2 from the group consisting of a load coil and a bridged tap.
- 1 28. The computer program product of claim 19 further comprising instructions for
- billing for said selected line based on the data rate supported by said selected line.

- 1 29. The computer program product of claim 19 wherein said first of said at least three
- 2 categories is color-coded red, said second of said at least three categories is color coded
- 3 green and said third of said at least three categories is color-coded yellow.
- 1 30. The computer program product of claim 20 wherein said fourth category is color-
- 2 coded gray.
- 1 31. The computer program product of daim 19 further comprising instructions for
- 2 causing a test unit to test a line.
- 1 32. The computer program product of claim 31 wherein said instructions for causing a
- 2 test unit to test a line includes instructions for causing a test unit to perform at least one
- 3 of:
- 4 driving said line with a signal;
- 5 measuring said line;
- estimating characteristics of said line from the results of said measuring said line;
- 7 and
- predicting a data rate supportable by said line from said line characteristics.
- 1 33. The computer program product of claim 32 wherein said instructions for
- 2 estimating characteristics of said line include instructions to perform at least one of:
- 3 estimating an insertion loss of said line;
- 4 estimating a phase imbalance of said line;
- 5 estimating a length of said line;
- 6 estimating a gauge of said line;
- 7 determining the presence of gauge changes of said line;
- 8 determining the presence of a bridged tap on said line;
- 9 determining the presence of a load coil on said line; and
- determining the presence of other path elements on said line.



- 2 determining the presence of other path elements includes instructions to perform at least
- 3 one of:
- determining the presence of a splitter;
- determining the presence of a filter; and
- 6 determining the presence of a termination.
- 1 35. The computer program product of daim 31 further comprising instructions for
- 2 causing said test unit to predict the dependability of said line testing.
- 1 36. The computer program product of claim\31 further comprising instructions for
- 2 causing said test unit to predict the coverage of said testing.
- 1 37. A method of predicting the data rate of a line for carrying signals between a near
- 2 end a far end modem, comprising:
- a) providing information that predicts data rate on a line for each of a plurality of line models;
- 5 b) making measurements on the line and using the measurements to select 6 one of the plurality of line models to represent the line;
- selecting the data rate from the information provided for the selected line model.
- 1 38. The method of claim 37 wherein the provided information that predicts data rate
- 2 includes rates for upstream and downstream data transmissions.
- 1 39. The method of claim 37 wherein the plurality of line models includes models of
- 2 lines differing lengths.
- 1 40. The method of claim 37 wherein the plurality of line models include models of
- 2 lines having bridge taps at differing locations.

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disturbing signals.